

## **Division of Comprehensive Psychiatric Services Guideline #1**

**Date: March 30, 2012**

**Title: Daily Living Activities Functional Assessment For Children**

**Application: Children's Community Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services,  
Comprehensive Psychiatric Services**

### **General Information**

As of July 1, 2012 the Daily Living Activities Functional Assessment (DLA20) Youth Version will replace the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) as the standardized functional tool for children entering Community Psychiatric Rehabilitation (CPR) services. Providers are expected to receive the appropriate training from Ms. Willa Presmanes, M.Ed. MA, the developer of the tool, in order to administer the DLA20 to fidelity. The DLA20 is a copyrighted measure available for free after appropriate training from MTM Services.

Upon receiving the training, providers can begin using the DLA20 as per the guidelines outlined in this bulletin. All providers shall have received training from Ms. Presmanes and be utilizing the DLA20 as of July 1, 2012.

The DLA20 is a twenty-item functional assessment measure designed to assess what daily living areas are impacted by mental illness or disability. The assessment tool quickly identifies where outcomes are needed so clinicians/community support workers can address those areas on the individualized treatment plan with the goal of improved functioning and symptom reduction.

The following are specific requirements for the Community Mental Health Centers in the administration of the DLA20 within CPR.

### **Eligibility Requirements For CPR Children's Services**

A child can be determined eligible for CPR, by one of the following means.

- 1) Child has a qualifying diagnosis as per 9 CSR 30.4.042.
- 2) Child has a serious emotional disorder as defined by the Department of Mental Health **and** a score on the DLA20 of 50 or below for children between 6 and 18 years of age.

For children ages 2 through 5, the following are the DMH approved functional tools. Total scores should be documented in the child's record. At the present time, there is not a location in CIMOR to enter these scores.

- Devereaux Early Childhood Assessment Clinical Form (DECA-C); Total Behavior Concerns scale of 60 or higher.
- Ages and Stages Social Emotional Screening tool; cutoff scores identified with the specific age ranges as identified in the manual are eligible for CPR.
- Preschool and Early Childhood Functional Assessment Scale (PECFAS); total score of 90 or above.

### **Age Range**

The DLA20 Youth Version is targeted for children and youth between the ages of 6 and 18 years.

### **Time Frames For Administration**

DLA20 is to be administered upon admission of the child to CPR, a quarterly basis thereafter, and upon discharge.

### **Qualified Personnel**

The initial, annual, and discharge DLA20 shall be completed by a Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP). Quarterly updates can be completed by the community support worker.

### **Data Entry**

The DLA20 scores shall be entered into CIMOR under diagnosis axis V. The initial score shall be entered within 30 days of the admission date into CIMOR.

### **Discharge Of Youth**

Presently, there are no requirements for CPR discharge in relation to the DLA20 score.

### **Retesting Of Inter-Rater Reliability**

Department of Mental Health will work with the Coalition of Community Mental Health Center Children's Committee to develop a plan for a regular annual or biannual re-testing of inter-rater reliability to ascertain fidelity to administering the functional tool.

**Billing**

The community support worker can bill up to two (2) units of community support for the time spent completing the DLA20. The billable time should be the actual time spent completing the DLA20, and may vary from one child to another.

The QMHP can bill up to two (2) units of Behavioral Health Assessment (H0002) for the time spent completing the DLA20. The billable time should be the actual time spent completing the DLA20, and may vary from one child to another.

**Young Adults 18 Years And Older**

In the case of young adults that are 18 and over that continue to receive youth funded services, the provider is strongly encouraged to administer either the Youth, or the Adult version of the DLA20 based on the young adults functioning. Administration of the DLA20 for this age range is not required at this point, but may be in the near future.